THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) The prices of wagons (excluding the cost of free supply items) are as under:

	BOXN	BCNA	BTPN
1998-99	5,03,259	5,41,536	5,89,467
1999-2000	5,02,202	5,55,358	6,08,925
2000-2001	4,24,500	4,84,000	5,78,000

(b) Yes, Sir. The purchase price of all the materials arranged by wagon builders is not available with Ministry of Railways. However, three major items viz. Bogie, Coupler & Air Brake are also purchased by Railways for wagon production in 3 Railway Workshops. Year-wise, per wagon purchase cost (excluding duties and taxes) of these three items by Railways is Rs. 2,54,851 for the year 1998-99, Rs. 2,46,370 for the year 1999-2000 and Rs. 2,19,335 for the year 2000-2001.

(c) Steel, Wheelsets and Cartridge Tapered Roller Bearing are free supply items from Railways.

(d) Conversion cost may vary from builder to builder. This is not available with the Railways. Cost given in (a) includes conversion cost as well as cost of bought out items arranged by wagon builders.

Bullet Trains

2231. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways has received a credit of Rs. 50 crore from Spain to undertake a survey and prepare the feasibility report for introduction of bullet train services in the 550 km. stretch between Mumbai and Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the proposal to utilise this amount; and

(c) if so, by when the policy is likely to be framed and the amount to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Zonal Railway Deputationists in Railway Board

2232. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board has executive control over all the Zonal Railways and all the officers in this office are posted on deputation from each of the Zonal Railways; and

(b) if so, what are the Zone-wise details of officials working in each directorate of Railway Board and the period thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) the Railway Board functions both as a Ministry of the Government of India and also as a Top Executive and Administrative Body controlling the Railway functions in the field. A large number of Officers of the Zonal Railways in various disciplines are working in Railway Board's Office in addition to Secretariat Officers and deputationists from other Ministries/State Governments.

The posting of Officers of Zonal Railways to Railway Board and within the Zonal Railways and Production Units is not considered as deputation since these postings are within the Railway Organisation.

(b) The Officers of the Organised Railway Services from a part of the Central Services, having the transfer liability within the Railways and are posted in different field units/Railway Board according to the administrative conveniences. Officers with outstanding performance and clean vigilance records are drawn from all disciplines of Zonal Railways on tenure basis for filling vacancies of respective disciplines in Railway Board's Office. There is no fixed zone-wise quota for Officers for posting in Railway Board.